

# FEA

**FAWN**, *n. f.* [*fauv*, French, from *fan*, in old French a child, probably from *infans*, Latin.] A young deer.  
Looking my love, I go from place to place,  
Like a young *fawn* that late hath lost the hind;  
And seek each where, where last I saw her face,  
Whose image yet I carry fresh in mind. *Spenser's Sonnets.*  
The buck is called the first year a *fawn*, the second year a pricket.  
The colt hath about four years of growth; and to the *fawn*, and to the calf. *Bacon's Natural History*, N. 759.  
Who for thy table feeds the wanton *fawn*,  
For him as kindly spreads the flow'ry lawn. *Pope.*  
**TO FAWN**, *v. n.* [of uncertain original. Perhaps a contraction of the French *fanfan*, a term of fondness for children.]  
1. To court by flattery before one: as a dog.  
The dog straight *fawned* upon his master for old knowledge. *Sidney.*  
Holding Corioli in the name of Rome,  
Even like a *fawning* greyhound. *Shakespeare's Coriolanus.*  
2. To court by any means. Used by animals.  
Instead thereof he kiss'd her weary feet,  
And lick'd her lily hands with *fawning* tongue,  
As he her wrong'd innocence did weat. *Fairy Queen*, b. i.  
Is it not strange that a rational man should worship an ox? that he should *fawn* upon his dog? bow himself before a cat? and adore leeks and garlic? *South's Sermons.*  
3. To court servilely.  
My love, forbear to *fawn* upon their frowns;  
What danger or what sorrow can befall thee,  
So long as Edward is thy constant friend? *Shak. Henry VI.*  
And thou, fly hypocrite, who now wouldst be  
Patron of liberty, who more than thou  
Once *fawn'd*, and cring'd, and servilely ador'd  
Heav'n's awful monarch? *Milton's Paradise Lost*, b. iv.  
Whom Ancus follows, with a *fawning* air;  
But vain within, and proudly popular. *Dryden's Æn.* b. vi.  
Dextrous the craving *fawning* crowd to quit,  
And pleas'd to 'scape from flattery to wit. *Pope.*  
4. To bring forth a fawn.  
**FA'WNER**, *n. f.* [from *fawn*.] One that fawns; one that pays servile courtship.  
By softness of behaviour we have arrived at the appellation of *fawners*. *Spektor*, N. 304.  
**FA'WNINGLY**, *adv.* [from *fawn*.] In a cringing servile way.  
**FA'XED**, *adj.* [from *pæx*, Saxon, hair.] Hairy. Now obsolete.  
They could call a comet a *faxed* star, which is all one with stella crinita, or cometa. *Camden's Remains.*  
**FAY**, *n. f.* [*fé*, French.]  
1. A fairy; an elf.  
And the yellow-skirted *fays*  
Fly after the night-fleets, leaving their moon-lov'd maze. *Milton.*  
Ye sylphs and sylphids, to your chief give ear;  
*Fays*, fairies, genii, elves and demons hear! *Pope.*  
2. [from *foi*, French.] Faith. Wholly obsolete.  
They plainly to speak of shepherds most what,  
Bad is the best, this English is flat;  
Their ill 'haviour garrs men mislay,  
Both of their doctrine and their *fay*. *Spenser's Pastorals.*  
**FEABERRY**, *n. f.* A gooseberry.  
**TO FEAGUE**, *v. a.* [Gower uses *Te feige*, free to censure; *feigen*, German, to sweep; *fyken*, Dutch, to strike.] To whip; to chastise; to beat. In Scottish *feake*, to flutter; to be idly or officiously busy.  
**FEALTY**, *n. f.* [*feaulté*, French.] Duty due to a superior lord; fidelity to a master; loyalty.  
I am in parliament pledge for his truth,  
And lasting *fealty* to the new-made king. *Shak. Rich. III.*  
Let my sovereign  
Command my eldest son, nay all my sons,  
As pledges of my *fealty* and love. *Shak. Henry IV.* p. ii.  
Man disobeying,  
Disloyal, breaks his *fealty*, and lins  
Against the high supremacy of heav'n. *Milton's Par. Lost.*  
Each bird and beast behold  
After their kinds: I bring them to receive  
From thee their names, and pay thee *fealty*  
With low subjection. *Milton's Paradise Lost*, b. viii.  
Whether his first design be to withdraw  
Our *fealty* from God, or to disturb  
Conjugal love. *Milton's Paradise Lost*, b. ix.  
**FEAR**, *n. f.* [pepan, Sax. to fear; *var*, Dut. *feakle*, Eric.]  
1. Dread; horror; painful apprehension of danger.  
*Fear* is an uneasiness of the mind, upon the thought of future evil likely to befall us. *Locke.*  
Trembling *fear* still to and fro did fly,  
And found no place where safe the throwd him might. *F. 2.*  
For *fear* was upon them, because of the people of those countries. *Exra iii.* 3.  
What then remains? Are we depriv'd of will?  
Must we not with, for *fear* of wishing ill? *Dryden's Juv.*

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*Fear*, in general, is that passion of our nature whereby we are excited to provide for our security upon the approach of evil. *Rogers, Sermon 1.*  
2. Awe; dejection of mind at the presence of any person or thing.  
And the *fear* of you, and the dread of you, shall be upon every beast. *Gen. ix.* 2.  
3. Anxiety; solicitude.  
The greatest and principal *fear* was for the holy temple. *2 Mac. xv.* 18.  
4. That which causes fear.  
Antony, stay not by his side:  
Thy demon, that's the spirit that keeps thee, is  
Noble, courageous, high, unmatchable,  
Where Cæsar's is not; but near him, thy angel  
Becomes a *fear*, as being o'erpower'd. *Shak. Ant. and Cleop.*  
5. The object of fear.  
Except the God of Abraham and the *fear* of Isaac had been with me. *Gen. xxxi.* 42.  
6. Something hung up to scare deer by its colour or noise.  
He who fleeth from the noise of the *fear* shall fall into the pit, and he that cometh up out of the midst of the pit shall be taken in the snare. *Isa. xxiv.* 18.  
**FEAR**, *n. f.* [poepa, Saxon.] A companion. Obsolete.  
But fair Charissa to a lovely *fear*  
Was linked, and by him had many pledges dear. *Fairy Qu.*  
**TO FEAR**, *v. a.* [pepan, Saxon.]  
1. To dread; to consider with apprehensions of terror; to be afraid of.  
Now, for my life, Hortensio *fears* his widow.  
—Then never trust me if I be afraid.  
—You are very sensible, yet you miss my sense;  
I mean Hortensio is afraid of you. *Shak. Tam. of the Shrew.*  
To *fear* the foe, since fear oppresseth strength,  
Gives, in your weakness, strength unto your foe. *Sh. R. II.*  
There shall rise up a kingdom, and it shall be *fear'd* above all the kingdoms before it. *2 Esdr.* xii. 13.  
When I view the beauties of thy face,  
I *fear* not death, nor dangers, nor disgrace. *Dryden.*  
2. To fright; to terrify; to make afraid.  
The inhabitants, being *fear'd* with the Spaniards landing and burning, fled from their dwellings. *Carew.*  
If he be taken, he shall never more  
Be *fear'd* of doing harm: make your own purpose  
How in my strength you please. *Shak. King Lear.*  
We must not make a scarecrow of the law,  
Setting it up to *fear* the birds of prey. *Sh. Meas. for Meas.*  
Some, sitting on the hatches, would seem there,  
With hideous gazing, to *fear* away fear. *Donne.*  
**TO FEAR**, *v. n.*  
1. To live in horror; to be afraid.  
Well you may *fear* too far.  
—Safer than trust too far:  
Let me still take away the harms I *fear*,  
Not *fear* still to be harm'd. *Shakespeare's King Lear.*  
2. To be anxious.  
If any such be here, if any *fear*  
Less for his person than an ill report;  
If any think brave death outweighs bad life. *Shak. Coriolan.*  
Then let the greedy merchant *fear*  
For his ill-gotten gain;  
And pray to gods that will not hear,  
While the debating winds and billows bear  
His wealth into the main. *Dryden's Horat.*  
See, pious king, with different strife,  
Thy struggling Albion's bosom torn:  
So much she *fears* for William's life,  
That Mary's fate she dare not mourn. *Prior.*  
**FEARFUL**, *adj.* [fear and full.]  
1. Timorous; timid; easily made afraid.  
He's gentle, and not *fearful*. *Shakespeare's Tempest.*  
2. Afraid. It has of before the object of fear.  
The Irish are more *fearful* to offend the law than the English. *Davies on Ireland.*  
I have made my heroine *fearful* of death, which neither Callandra nor Cleopatra would have been. *Dryd. Auren. Pref.*  
3. Awful; to be revered.  
Who is like thee, glorious in holiness, *fearful* in praises. *Ex. xv.* 11.  
4. Terrible; dreadful; frightful; impressing fear.  
Neither fast to friend, nor *fearful* to foe. *Ascham's Schoolm.*  
Against such monsters God maintained his own, by *fearful* execution of extraordinary judgment upon them. *Hecker.*  
What God did command touching Canaan, concerneth not us any otherwise than only as a *fearful* pattern of his just displeasure. *Hooker*, b. vi. f. 17.  
All torment, trouble, wonder, and amazement  
Inhabits here: some heav'nly power guide us  
Out of this *fearful* country. *Shakespeare's Tempest.*  
It is a *fearful* thing to fall into the hands of the living God. *Hebr. xi.* 31.  
Lay down by those pleasures the *fearful* and dangerous  
thunders

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thunders and lightnings, the horrible and frequent earthquakes, and then there will be found no comparison. *Raleigh.*  
This is the natural fruit of sin, and the present revenge which it takes upon sinners, besides that *fearful* punishment which shall be inflicted on them in another life. *Tillotson.*  
**FEARFULLY**, *adv.* [from *fearful*.]  
1. Timorously; in fear.  
In such a night  
Did Thibbe *fearfully* o'ertrip the dew,  
And saw the lion's shadow. *Shaksp. Merchant of Venice.*  
2. Terribly; dreadfully.  
There is a cliff, whose high and bending head  
Looks *fearfully* on the confined deep. *Shaksp. King Lear.*  
**FEARTULNESS**, *n. f.* [from *fearful*.]  
1. Timorously; habitual timidity.  
2. State of being afraid; awe; dread.  
Is it credible that the acknowledgment of our own unworthiness, our professed *fearfulness* to ask any thing, otherwise than only for his sake to whom God can deny nothing, that this should be noted for a popish error. *Hooker*, b. v.  
A third thing that makes a government justly despised, is *fearfulness* of and mean compliances with bold popular offenders. *South's Sermons.*  
**FEARLESSLY**, *adv.* [from *fearless*.] Without terror.  
'Tis matter of the greatest astonishment to observe the stupid, yet common boldness of men, who so *fearlessly* expose themselves to this most formidable of perils. *Decay of Piety.*  
**FEARLESSNESS**, *n. f.* [from *fearless*.] Exemption from fear; intrepidity.  
He gave instances of an invincible courage, and *fearlessness* in danger. *Clarendon*, b. viii.  
**FEARLESS**, *adj.* [from *fear*.] Free from fear; intrepid; courageous; bold.  
From the ground she *fearless* doth arise,  
And walked forth without suspect of crime. *Fairy Queen.*  
The flaming seraph, *fearless*, though alone  
Encompass'd round with foes, thus answer'd hold. *Milton.*  
A nation, whose distinguishing character it is to be more *fearless* of death and danger than any other. *Temple.*  
**FEASIBILITY**, *n. f.* [from *feasible*.] A thing practicable.  
Men often swallow fallacies for truths, dubiosities for certainties, possibilities for *feasibilities*, and things impossible for possibilities themselves. *Brown's Vulgar Errors*, b. i. c. 5.  
**FEASIBLE**, *adj.* [*faissible*, French.] Practicable; such as may be effected; such as may be done.  
We conclude many things impossibilities, which yet are easy *feasibles*. *Clarville's Serch.* c. 14.  
Things are *feasible* in themselves; else the eternal wisdom of God would never have advised, and much less have commanded them. *South's Sermons.*  
**FEASIBLY**, *adv.* [from *feasible*.] Practicably.  
**FEAST**, *n. f.* [*fest*, French; *festum*, Latin.]  
1. An entertainment of the table; a sumptuous treat of great numbers.  
Here's our chief guest.  
—If he had been forgotten,  
It had been as a gap in our great *feast*. *Shak. Macbeth.*  
On Pharaoh's birthday he made a *feast* unto all his servants. *Gen. xl.* 20.  
The lady of the leaf ordain'd a *feast*,  
And made the lady of the flow'r her guest;  
When lo! a bow'r ascended on the plain,  
With sudden seats ordain'd, and large for either train. *Dry.*  
2. An anniversary day of rejoicing either on a civil or religious occasion. Opposed to a fast.  
This day is call'd the *feast* of Crispian. *Shak. Hen. V.*  
3. Something delicious to the palate.  
Many people would, with reason, prefer the griping of an hungry belly to those dishes which are a *feast* to others. *Locke.*  
**TO FEAST**, *v. n.* [from the noun.] To eat sumptuously; to eat together on a day of joy.  
Richard and Northumberland, great friends,  
Did *feast* together. *Shakespeare's Henry IV.* p. ii.  
The parish finds, indeed; but our church-wardens-  
*Feast* on the silver, and give us the farthings. *Gay.*  
**TO FEAST**, *v. a.*  
1. To entertain sumptuously; to entertain magnificently.  
He was entertained and *feasted* by the king with great show of favour. *Hayward.*  
2. To delight; to pamper.  
All these are ours, all nature's excellences,  
Whole taste or smell can bless the *feasted* sense. *Dryden.*  
**FEASTER**, *n. f.* [from *feast*.]  
1. One that fares deliciously.  
Those *feasters* could speak of great and many excellencies in manna. *Taylor's Worthy Communicant.*  
2. One that entertains magnificently.  
**FEASTFUL**, *adj.* [*faest* and *full*.]  
1. Festive; joyful.  
The virgins also shall on *feastful* days  
Visit his tomb with flowers, only bewailing  
His lot unfortunate in nuptial choice,  
From whence captivity and loss of eyes. *Milton's Agonistes.*

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Therefore be sure  
Thou, when the bridegroom with his *feastful* friends  
Palfies to bliss at the mid-hour of night,  
Halt gain'd thy entrance, virgin wife and pure. *Milton.*  
2. Luxurious; riotous.  
The futor train  
Who crowd his palace, and with lawless pow'r  
His herds and flocks in *feastful* rites devour. *Pope's Odyssey.*  
**FEASTFUL**, *n. f.* [*faest* and *rite*.] Custom observed in entertainments.  
His hospitable gate,  
Unbar'd to all, invites a numerous train  
Of daily guests; whose board with plenty crown'd,  
Revives the *feastful* old. *Phillips.*  
**FEAT**, *n. f.* [*fait*, French.]  
1. Act; deed; action; exploit.  
Pyrocles is his name, renowned far  
For his bold *feats*, and hardy confidence;  
Full of approved in many a cruel war. *Fairy Queen*, b. ii.  
Tarquin's self he met,  
And struck him on the knee: in that day's *feats*,  
When he might act the woman in the scene,  
He prov'd th' best man i' th' field. *Shakespeare's Coriolanus.*  
Our soldiers are men of strong heads for action, and perform such *feats* as they are not able to express. *Addis. Spectat.*  
2. A trick; a festive or ludicrous performance.  
The joints are more supple to all *feats* of activity and motion in youth than afterwards. *Acron's Essays.*  
**FEAT**, *adj.* [*fait, bien fait*, French; *homo factus ad inguem*.]  
1. Ready; skilful; ingenious.  
Never master had  
A page so kind, so dutious, diligent;  
So tender over his occasions, true,  
So *feats*, so huckle-like. *Shakespeare's Cymbeline.*  
2. It is now only used in irony and contempt.  
That *feats* man at controversy. *Stillingfleet.*  
3. Nice; neat.  
Look how well my garments sit upon me,  
Much *feater* than before. *Shakespeare's Tempest.*  
**FEATEOUS**, *adj.* [from *feats*.] Neat; dexterous. Obsolete.  
**FEATEOUSLY**, *adv.* [from *feateous*.] Neatly; dexterously.  
And with fine fingers cropt full *feateously*  
The tender stalks on high. *Spenser.*  
**FEATHER**, *n. f.* [*fedep*, Saxon; *feder*, German.]  
1. The plume of birds.  
Look, as I blow this *feather* from my face. *Shak. H. VI.*  
The brave eagle does with sorrow see  
The forest wasted, and that lofty tree,  
Which holds her nest, about to be o'erthrown,  
Before the *feathers* of her young are grown;  
She will not leave them, nor she cannot stay,  
But bears them boldly on her wings away. *Waller.*  
When a man in the dark presses either corner of his eye with his finger, and turns his eye away from his finger, he will see a circle of colours like those in the *feathers* of a peacock's tail. *Newton's Opt.*  
2. Kind; nature; species; from the proverbial expression, *birds of a feather*; that is, of a species.  
The proud insulting queen,  
With Clifford and the haught Northumberland,  
And of their *feather* many more proud birds,  
Have wrought the easy-melting king, like wax. *Sh. H. VI.*  
I am not of that *feather* to shake off  
My friend, when he most needs me. *Shakespeare's Timon.*  
3. An ornament; an empty title.  
4. [Upon a horse.] A sort of natural frizzling of hair, which, in some places, rises above the lying hair, and there makes a figure resembling the tip of an ear of corn. *Parrier's Diet.*  
**TO FEATHER**, *v. a.* [from the noun.]  
1. To dress in feathers.  
2. To fit with feathers.  
3. To tread as a cock.  
Dame Partlet was the sovereign of his heart;  
Ardent in love, outrageous in his play,  
He *feather'd* her a hundred times a day. *Dryden.*  
4. To enrich; to adorn; to exalt.  
They stuck not to say, that the king cared not to plume his nobility and people, to *feather* himself. *Bacon's Henry VII.*  
5. *TO FEATHER ONE'S NEST*. Alluding to birds which collect feathers, among other materials, for making their nests; to get riches together.  
**FEATHERBED**, *n. f.* [*feather* and *bed*.] A bed stuffed with feathers; a soft bed.  
The husband cock looks out, and frait is sped,  
And meets his wife, which brings her *feather-bed*. *Donne.*  
**FEATHERDRIVER**, *n. f.* [*feather* and *drive*.] One who cleanses feathers by whisking them about.  
A *featherdriver* had the residue of his lungs filled with the fine dust or down of feathers. *Derham's Physico-Theology.*  
**FEATHERED**, *adj.* [from *feather*.]  
1. Cloathed